

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR 20 JAN 50

SUBJECT Conditions in Chiamussu

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PLACE

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Referral not necessary.

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(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

1. Chiamussu has become a training ground for Chinese Communist cadres. The mayor, LI Chia-ch'i (李嘉祺),* a nephew of the late Communist General LI Chao-lin (李兆麟), is very active in organizations for this purpose. All schools, newspapers, and other publications follow the Communist Party line.
2. The city government owns all large businesses in Chiamussu. Business with southern Manchuria is slight, but there is active commerce with merchants of Tungchiang (132-29, 47-39) and Fuchin (131-59, 47-14), who visit the city to purchase furs for export to the USSR. Little currency is in circulation, although the official Northeast People's Currency (NEC) is used by visitors; local residents employ commodity coupons instead of money.
3. The spring harvest suffered from wheat rust, and the excessive autumn rainfall was expected to reduce the late crops to about fifty-five percent of normal. The farming situation in Manchuria generally is difficult, because of shortages and government regulations. Landlords who fled from their homes and attempt to return are forced by Communist authorities to remain unemployed in the villages for three months before settling down again on farms. The Farmers' Associations are at odds with hsiang governments over such regulations as permits for slaughtering animals for meat.
4. The Communist writer HSIAO Chun (蕭軍)** is serving a life sentence at hard labor in the Hao Kang (寶崗) Coal Mine at Lien Chiang K'ou (連江口) across the Sungari River from Chiamussu. He disleased the Communist authorities by publication of a book called The Chinese Communist Party and Its 124 Principles (壹佰廿四個主義中國共產黨).
5. The former Manchukuo army camp near Chiamussu is now known as the First Indoctrination Camp for the People's Liberation Army in Northeast China. Among its present inhabitants are former agents of the Japanese Tokumu K'ikan and important Nationalist prisoners of war, such as Generals FAN Han-chieh (范漢傑)*** and HO K'uei (賀國光). Less important Nationalist prisoners are sent to Harbin or Fushun (123-54, 41-53) for indoctrination.
6. There are several hundred Soviet troops in the area, under Major General

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Next Review Date: 2008

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Vitnov (name as received in English). On an airstrip outside the South Gate at Chiamussu, there are large numbers of Soviet B-25 type bombers and Legg-18 (sic) type fighters. All the pilots are Outer Mongolians. Ships under Soviet army control travel daily between Tungchiang and Harbin.

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* [] Comment. LI Chia-chi has been reported as a reserve member of the Executive Committee of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions and secretary of the Postal Service Employees' Union, in October 1943

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[] His uncle, LI Chao-lin, killed in March 1946 in Harbin, was a Soviet-trained Communist leader []

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** [] Comment. HSIAO Chun has been reported as a member of the Examination Committee of the Nationalist Constitution Enforcement Council. []

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*** [] Comment. FAN Han-chieh was deputy commander in chief of Nationalist armies in 1948 []

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